



GREATER MANCHESTER
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

GMFRS Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Where can I find the Expression of Interest Form to register my interest?

A: You can find the link to the form via the Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue website on the 'Join Us' page or directly through [Greater.Jobs](#).

Q: Who should I contact if the Expression of Interest Form does not work or I'm unsure how to complete it?

A: Please email JoinUs@manchesterfire.gov.uk and a member of the recruitment team will contact you ASAP to discuss.

Q: If I have already attended a Taster Day or applied to previous Firefighter recruitment, do I need to re-start the process again from the beginning?

A: Yes. As it has been over 12 months since our last Taster Day, we would ask all candidates to reapply for a Taster Day to gain their eligibility for this recruitment.

Q: Why have I registered my interest but not been invited to a Taster Day?

A: Taster Day invites will only be emailed out to the database, as and when they are arranged. Taster Days will be running throughout November and December, so please be patient while waiting for a Taster Day, as there will be lots of opportunity to attend.

It is also your responsibility to ensure you monitor your Greater.jobs account inbox and that your contact details (email address) is correct and kept up to date.

Q: What happens after a Taster Day or if I don't receive the link to the application form?

A: Once you have attended a Taster Day, you will be eligible to apply to the Wholetime Firefighter application form as and when the recruitment is live.

Internal candidates will find the link to the application form through InsideGMCA and external candidates will receive the link to the application via the email address we have already contacted you with previously.

Q: If all Taster Days are fully booked, can I still apply to the recruitment?

A: There is huge interest in the Wholetime Firefighter role and due to this high volume, we might not be able to accommodate everybody at Taster Days. However, there will be more opportunities with future recruitment planned and your details will remain on our Greater.Jobs database for us to contact you with any updates.

Q: How long does the recruitment process take?

A: The end-to-end recruitment process can take up to 6 months. This includes both the recruitment and pre-employment checks/on-boarding for those candidates that are successful.

Q: What is the pass mark level for the Bleep test?

A: The minimum standard required for the bleep test is level 8.8, however on the bleep test day, the test will be ran to level 9.6 allowing candidates to show a greater level of fitness.

Candidates successful in the recruitment process will be advised they must be aiming towards level 10 in the bleep test, prior to starting their initial training course.

Q: Where will the internal advert be?

A: When the Wholetime Firefighter recruitment advert is live, internal candidates will be able to access the link through the intranet InsideGMCA, using the 'Jobs' tile in key info. It will also be listed on the internal jobs page on Greater.jobs.

Q: Are you only recruiting people from under-represented groups (BAME and Women)?

A: No. We welcome applications from everyone no matter their age, gender, sexuality or ethnicity. Expressions of interest forms are welcomed from anyone passionate about keeping the people of Greater Manchester safe and from this, we will only recruit the very best.

Q: If I has a criminal record, will that affect my application?

A: A criminal record will not affect your application, however, under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act (1974); candidates are required to declare all unspent convictions upon applying for the role and each declaration will be treated on a case by case basis.

Q: Can I still apply if I have tattoos or piercings?

A: Due to Health and Safety reasons, GMFRS requires candidates to remove all piercings. However, Tattoos are acceptable, as long as they are not considered offensive.

Q: Can I apply to work at a specific fire station?

A: No, candidates applying for the Wholetime Firefighter role are applying to work anywhere in Greater Manchester. Although we will try to place you as close to home as possible, placements will be assigned as per organisational need and where there are vacancies.

Q: Should I still apply if I currently have an injury?

A: With both the Taster Day and fitness tests throughout the recruitment process, you will be required to sign a declaration of health prior to participating. Therefore, we often recommend candidates who are currently injured do not apply at this time, as there will be future opportunities available.

However, if you would like to speak to a member of the team please email the recruitment team at JoinUs@manchesterfire.gov.uk

Q: Can I apply with a provisional driving licence?

A: Yes, candidates can apply for the Wholetime Firefighter role without a full UK driving licence. However, within the 2-year (minimum) apprenticeship, you must pass their driving test prior to taking their end point assessment.

Q: Who should I contact if I have learning needs or a medical condition (including sight and hearing) and may require adjustments to complete the application form/tests?

A: Please email your details (name and contact number) to JoinUs@manchesterfire.gov.uk and a member of the recruitment team will contact you ASAP to discuss.